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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

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| Applicants: | Kris G. Kumar et al. | Confirmation No.: | 2402 |
| Application No.: | 10/647,587 | Art Unit: | 3732 |
| Filed: | August 26, 2003 | Examiner: | Ralph A. Lewis |
| For: | SPINAL FIXATION SYSTEM | Attorney Docket: | 8932-825-999 |

New York, New York 10017
May 3, 2006

Mail Stop AF
Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO ADVISORY ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Advisory Action mailed March 27, 2006, applicants request entry of the following amendments to the above-identified patent application in order to place the application in condition for allowance:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

REMARKS begin on page 6.